

I extend my deepest congratulations to Dean Rogers for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all his future accomplishments.

HONORING THE WORLD WAR II VETERANS OF ILLINOIS

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 2, 2011

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the World War II veterans who are traveling to Washington, D.C. today with Honor Flight Chicago, a program who provides as many World War II veterans as possible the opportunity to see the World War II Memorial here in Washington, D.C., a memorial that was built to honor their courage and service.

The American Veteran is one of our greatest treasures. The Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen traveling here today answered our nation's call to service during one of its greatest times of need. From the European Campaign to the Pacific Asian Theatre to the African Theater, these brave Americans risked life and limb, gave service and sacrificed much, all while embodying what it is to be a hero. We owe them more gratitude than can ever be expressed.

I welcome these brave veterans to Washington and to their memorial. I am proud to submit the names of these men and women for all to see, hear, and recognize, and I call on my colleagues to rise and join me in expressing gratitude.

Marvin Leroy Abramson, Louis Alejandro, Earl Allen, Robert Arvidson, Thomas Atchison, Julio A. Battistoni, Birgie Dean Bergeson, Charles S. Bergh, Earl F. Bishop, Stanley J. Biskup, Ralph Blattner, Marjorie H. Bobzin, William J. Bolt, Lloyd Bowman, Seymour Brodsky, Edward V. Bucaro, Norman E. Burbury, Julius Burrell, Anthony Candice, William J. Christian, Vernon Ciske, Guy Colletti, Irving Covitt, Louis Czyzewski, Robert K. Dean, Walter J. Dobosz, Edward L. Effertz, Vincent J. Fiduccia, Arthur E. Fossland, Paul J. Gerjol, Wilbert Gerrish, Louis Guthmann, Arthur J. Habel, Gerald Hastings, Roscoe Hastings, Edward C. Hausknecht Jr., Albert R. Heminger, Edward J. Heywood, William R. Higgins, Gerald Hulslander, Diderick M. Iversen, Robert Jenkins, Alfred Jordi Jr., Francis Kaduk, Albert Komar, John Kotowski, Robert Bernhardt Krueger, Walter C. Kuhn, Herbert J. Lustig, George Mahony, James E. McShane, William Merrill, Harold Milling, Edwin John Misniak, Charles W. Moffett, Aldo J. Mob, Mary C. Nolan, Fulton Nolen Sr., Joseph R. Pacholski, Jerome Pierce, Joseph P. Pomykala, Frank N. Popp, Frederick Popper, Richard Priske, Robert Prorok, Eugene G. Qualizza, John Radke, Fred V. Randazzo, Kenneth L. Rapalee, Raymond F. Reece, William G. Rieker, John L. Ritchie, Eugene V. Rodarte, Shirley Marie Roeing, Richard Sven Roeing, Sam A. Scardino, Louis C. Seno, Vincent James Serio, Lawrence Smith, Samuel Stookal, Edward Sulkowski, Clarence F. Talentowski, Herbert L. Tatroe, Hilbert O.

Teske, George H. Thompson, Gilbert T. Vinzani, George H. Vozari, Barbara Q. Watson, Harold E. Weir, Franklin C. Wellhausen, John P. Whitbread, Richard Wolff, Berlin W. Wyman, Elmo R. Younger, Michael Yurchak, Leonard F. Zaehler, Walter Ziolkowski.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 2, 2011

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today our national debt is \$14,971,183,021,178.32.

On January 6, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$4,333,405,274,884.52 since then. This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

SALUTING THE BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU OF MIDDLE TENNESSEE

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 2, 2011

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to salute the Better Business Bureau of Middle Tennessee. An organization dedicated to consumer protection, business standards, and community involvement, the Bureau has seen record growth and become a pillar in our great city of Nashville.

In October of 1961, the Bureau opened its doors with 510 members. During the 1960s, it handled nearly 80,000 service requests. After 5 decades of expansion and growth, the Better Business Bureau of Middle Tennessee now has 5,000 members. In 2011, the Bureau will top 3 million requests with 98 percent of all services delivered via the Internet.

The Better Business Bureau of Middle Tennessee has a solid reputation for both helping the consumer and raising the standards of business. The Bureau continually encourages businesses to strive for the highest and most ethical standards in commerce. Local businesses aspire to be recipients of the highly coveted "Torch Award for Marketplace Ethics."

Although its primary focus is to direct consumers to businesses they can trust, the Better Business Bureau of Middle Tennessee has become a community partner and a good corporate citizen. The Bureau has invested in higher education awarding scholarships to deserving high schools students through the "Students of Integrity" program and partners with many other nonprofits in community events throughout the area.

And so, Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege today to salute the Better Business Bureau of Middle Tennessee for its 50 years of dedicated service to our citizens and our community, and for promoting higher ethical standards in business.

RECOGNIZING JUDGE RICARDO M. URBINA

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 2, 2011

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Judge Ricardo M. Urbina, the first Latino appointed to the bench in the District of Columbia. President Ronald Reagan nominated Judge Urbina for the Superior Court of the District of Columbia in 1981, and President Bill Clinton nominated him for the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia in 1994. Both before and after these path-breaking judicial appointments, Judge Urbina has been recognized by his peers, his city, and many organizations for his many contributions to the law and to society.

Judge Urbina began establishing his reputation with his broad experience as an attorney in the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia, in private practice specializing in commercial litigation, and as an associate professor at Howard University School of Law. Among Judge Urbina's achievements while on the bench was his leadership of efforts by the bar and community organizations to create the Superior Court's Office of Interpreter Services, which for the first time institutionalized the practice of providing court interpreters for non-English speakers and the hearing-impaired.

The District of Columbia and its residents are particularly grateful for Judge Urbina's attention to our youth and for his work in developing the next generation of legal achievers by exposing D.C. high school students to the court system, as well as by teaching law while on the bench. Throughout his career, Judge Urbina has been invested in improving both the law that serves our community and the community where the law is observed.

Judge Urbina has now taken senior status on the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, but he will continue to serve the city, the court, and the law in a multifaceted life and career that has been characterized by dedication and wisdom. Judge Urbina's career in the law has special meaning today particularly for Latinos, the fastest growing community in our country. The judge's roots in our Latino community make him a history-making role model particularly for a community that had no presence on either our local or federal courts before he paved the way on both. Yet, because of Judge Urbina's professionalism, excellence, character, and many contributions to the law and to the community, he has set a high bar as a lawyer, judge and distinguished citizen not only for lawyers, but for all who aspire to achieve in our city.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring Judge Ricardo M. Urbina for his accomplishments on the courts on which he has served and for his contribution to the law and to the residents of the District of Columbia.